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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MUNCIE MAN SENTENCED FOR COCAINE TRAFFICKING

PRESS RELEASE

Timothy M. Morrison, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana, announced that JESSE TYRONE BUCHANAN, 33, Muncie, Indiana, was sentenced to 430 months imprisonment today by U.S. District Judge John Daniel Tinder following his conviction at trial December 11, 2002. BUCHANAN was convicted of four counts of distribution of cocaine. This case was the result of a investigation by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the Delaware County Drug Task Force.

On four occasions beginning in late February, 2002 and ending on March 12, 2002, BUCHANAN sold cocaine to an individual in Muncie, Indiana. BUCHANAN was arrested

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on March 12, 2002, by law enforcement officers after a search of a Muncie “stash” house uncovered “crack” cocaine and cocaine, equipment used in the distribution of controlled substances and a loaded firearm.

Assistant United States Attorney Josh J. Minkler, who prosecuted the case for the government, referred to BUCHANAN as “a menace to the city of Muncie,” for his persistent crimes of violence and drug dealing in the Muncie, Indiana area. At the time of his arrest, BUCHANAN was on supervised release for two prior federal convictions for managing a drug conspiracy in Muncie, Indiana, and smuggling heroin into the Federal Prison in Terre Haute, Indiana. In addition to the two prior federal felony convictions, BUCHANAN was convicted of battery with a deadly weapon in 1994 when he shot a individual twice at an address on High Street in Muncie, Indiana.

Judge Tinder also imposed 6 years supervised release following BUCHANAN’s release from imprisonment. BUCHANAN was fined in the amount of \$2,000.

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